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Homes and lifestyles

Listening Part 3

3 You will hear a woman talking to a group of people about her houseboat. For each question, fill in the missing information.



HOUSEBOAT TOURS

BACKGROUND

There are approximately (1) houseboats in Seattle.

The houseboat tour lasts (2)

Many of the houseboats have two or three (3)

Elizabeth Jones' houseboat

Rooms: bedroom; bathroom; kitchen; (4)

Other facilities: electricity; running water; the Internet

Elizabeth's book available from beginning of (5)

Grammar

The past perfect

1 Match the beginnings of the sentences 1–5 with endings a–f. There is one ending you do not need.

- 1 I had never been to Asia
- 2 We decided to learn English
- 3 When I arrived at the house
- 4 By the time she moved to Italy
- 5 My sister missed her flight

a because she had left her passport at home.
 b she had been married for two years.
 c when my parents had found jobs there.
 d everyone else had gone out.
 e until I went to Bangkok last year.
 f after we had been offered jobs in New York.

2 Complete the sentences with the past perfect or the past simple form of the verbs in brackets.

- a When I (arrive), the exam (already / start).
- b I (never / see) a crocodile until I (go) to Egypt.
- c The children went to the park because they (arrange) to meet some friends there.
- d When I got home, I (discover) that I (lost) my bag.
- e We (leave) the cinema before the film (end).
- f After all the passengers (get) on the train, the doors (close).

Reading

Part 3

Read the text about an unusual house in America and decide if each sentence (1–8) is correct or incorrect.

THE PYRAMID HOUSE



Harry Wilkes, an American businessman, has built an unusual home in Ohio. The only part you can see is a giant blue pyramid-shaped window. The rest of the house is underground. The home is huge. It's around 2,000m² with a 760m² living room that has enough space for about 80 guests. Of course, without a window above ground, the home would have little sunlight. The pyramid catches the maximum amount of natural light and softly lights up the rooms below.

The decoration of the room is as impressive as the design. 10 Wilkes had been a keen collector of historic works of art before he even thought about building his home. Consequently, the house is filled with ancient things from Rome, Egypt and Greece.

The world of art doesn't stop in Wilkes' home. His house is 15 on top of a hill that's surrounded by forests and fields, and all around dotted across the countryside, are huge steel, bronze, and wooden sculptures. This is because The Pyramid House is in the middle of Pyramid Hill Sculpture Park and Museum. When the billionaire businessman first decided to build his home, he 20 fell in love with the beauty of the area and bought a lot of the surrounding land. Not knowing at first what to do with it, Harry decided to turn it into a sculpture park.

More than 100,000 people visit the park each year to enjoy the art and the scenery; others go to conferences, concerts, 25 weddings, and festivals there. Although Harry's house isn't open to the public, he has suggested that when he dies, it will become part of the sculpture park so that people will be able to see the personal and impressive museum collection inside.

- 1 None of Harry Wilkes' house can be seen above ground.
- 2 Harry's house has plenty of room for entertaining people.
- 3 Harry's house is quite dark inside.
- 4 Harry has recently become interested in ancient history.
- 5 There are giant works of art just outside Harry's home.
- 6 The sculpture park existed before Harry built his house.
- 7 It's possible to listen to music at the sculpture park.
- 8 Visitors today are able to see Harry's own art collection.

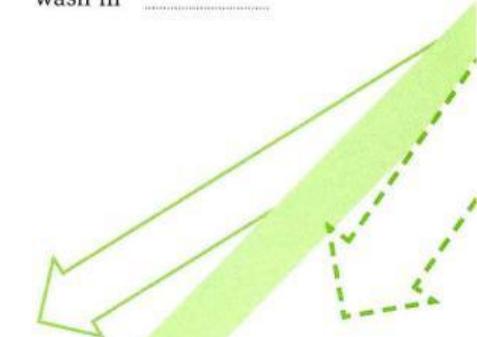
Vocabulary

House and home

- 1 Write the answers using the words below.

| | |
|---------|-------------|
| balcony | countryside |
| kitchen | town |
| stairs | bungalow |
| city | hall |
| village | bathroom |
| flat | patio |

- the room you usually cook in
- the part of a house that you first walk into
- four locations to live in
- two places attached to the outside of a house
- the part of the house that connects the ground floor with the top floors
- two types of home
- the room you usually wash in



2 Look at the words in a-e. Underline the odd one out in each group and give reasons why. Check your answers in a dictionary.

| | | | |
|------------|-----------|---------|------------------|
| a armchair | bookshelf | curtain | chest of drawers |
| b basin | oven | bath | shower |
| c ceiling | chimney | roof | fence |
| d pillow | fridge | blanket | cushion |
| e cellar | cottage | bedroom | study |

Suffixes

Complete a-f with adjectives formed from the words in brackets.

- My little sister's very (imagine). She's always making up games.
- It's a (beauty) day. The sun is shining and the sky is blue.
- This film is (bore). I feel like going to sleep.
- My parents recently bought a very (comfort) new sofa.
- It's an (interest) house. It looks a bit like a spaceship!
- My grandparents live in a (wonder) cottage by the sea.

Negative prefixes

1 Write the opposites of the words below using *un*, *im* or *in*. Check your answers in a dictionary.

- expensive
- pleasant
- necessary
- convenient
- possible
- correct
- perfect
- fashionable

2 Complete the sentences with words from exercise 1.

- What a(n) dress! It looks like something people wore in the 1950s.
- The house may be lovely, but I'm afraid it's too We can't afford to buy it.
- I'm afraid it's a rather time to phone. Could you call again later?
- I didn't enjoy that soup at all. It had a really taste.
- All your answers in the test were Well done!
- I can't do this exercise. It's !

Writing Part 2

You are going to move to a new home. Write a card to your English friend, Carl. In your card you should

- describe your new home
- say when you are moving
- invite Carl to visit

Write 35-45 words.

